



Start of Etta Brummer Family Collection

AR 11689

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LEO BAECK INSTITUTE
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AR 11689

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Etta Brummer Family Collection

1938-2004

Archives

AHC 1065

Etta Brummer Family Collection (AHC 1065)

All items listed below are copies if not otherwise indicated:

1. AHC questionnaires 1&2
2. Passport of Mr. Salomon Brummer, issued on 09/23/1938 in Vienna, showing the "J"
3. Passport of Ms. Etta "Sara" Brummer, issued on 01/31/1940 in Vienna, showing the "J", also showing the American visa stamp on an extra page
4. Passport of Ms. Roize "Sara" Kawe, issued on 01/31/1940 in Vienna, showing the "J"
5. Passport of Mr. Moses Kawe, issued on 01/31/1940 in Vienna, showing the "J"
6. Passport page of Mr. George Brummer showing his American visa

THE AUSTRIAN HERITAGE COLLECTION AT THE LEO BAECK INSTITUTE
AUSTRIAN-JEWISH IMMIGRANTS IN THE USA

LEO BAECK INSTITUTE: 129 E 73 STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10021, TEL (212) 744 6400

Name: ETTA _____ BRUMMER _____
First Name Middle Name
mailing Address: _____
Phone: _____ Last Occupation: SALBERSWOMAN
Date of Birth: 12 21 1903 Place of Birth: KOMARNO, POLAND (now UKRAINE)
Month Day Year City Country
Address before 1938: 29 GROSSE MORGENSASSE, VIENNA Street District in Vienna City Country
VIENNA AUSTRIA
Prewar Name: Name as above Maiden Name: KAWER/DAM

1. Education/Occupation(s) (if possible, indicate institutions and year when entered/left)
2. Were you affiliated with any kind of organization? (Youth, Zionist, Political or any other organizations)
If so, did you have any specific function?
WIZO

3. Were you arrested and/or interned? (please indicate where and when)

No

4. What was your route of emigration? (please indicate places and dates of stay)
Left Vienna in March 1940. Traveled by train through Germany to Rotterdam, Netherlands. In Rotterdam about 2 weeks, then by ship to USA.
Landed in New York in mid-April 1940

5. May we contact you again with a more detailed follow-up questionnaire?

Yes No

6. Do you have any documents that would be appropriate for the archives of the Leo Baeck Institute?
(personal documents, photographs, letters, all kinds of manuscripts, diaries, memoirs, etc.)

Can provide copies, but will not release originals.

Yes No

If necessary please use additional sheets. Thank you!

one

1065

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We kindly ask you to answer the following questions in as much detail as possible, either in English or in German. If you need more space, please feel free to use additional sheets. If you don't know the answers to certain questions or don't want to answer for any reason, just go on to the next question.

Handed by: **ETTA BRUNNIEK**

NAME: GEORGE BRUNNIEK **DATE:** 3/24/04
booker 1930 in Vienna

1. BEFORE MARCH 1938

1.1 Please describe your parental home.

(Did you live in an apartment or in a house? How many people lived with you? Did you have servants? What language(s) were spoken in the household?)

We lived in an apartment. The residents were my parents, maternal grandparents, my older brother and I. There was a servant. The languages spoken were German, Yiddish and, by my parents and grandparents, Polish.

1.2 Please tell us about your neighborhood (District in Vienna or area).

(What ethnic groups lived there? Religious life? Relationships between Jews and non-Jews? Relationships with neighbors?)

We lived in the 2nd District, which had a substantial Jewish population. Our street was mixed. Relationships with neighbors was good.

1.6 Did you or your family encounter any anti-Semitism before March 1938?
(If so, please give details.)

I didn't - I was too young - but my parents and grandparents undoubtedly did from time to time.

1.7 What was your (or your parents') reaction to Hitler's rise to power in Germany in 1933 and to Nazi activity in Austria in the early thirties?
Did you or your parents feel threatened by these events?

I was too young, but my parents thought that this, too, shall pass.

2. FROM MARCH 1938 TO EMIGRATION - FROM EUROPE TO AMERICA

2.1 How was your time spent during and after the "Anschluss"?

What was the impact of the "Anschluss" on you personally?

(Were you expelled from school/university? Did you or your parents lose your jobs?
Were your apartments/houses looted? Were you (or members of your family)
persecuted? Were you forced to scrub the streets?)

Activities were curtailed. I was taken out of
the public school I attended and enrolled in
a school maintained by the Jewish Community.
My brother was already in a Jewish secondary school.
My father had his own business, lost collections from
non-Jews became difficult. Several months before
we emigrated, we were forced to leave the apartment
we had lived in and moved to another. ~~where we~~ we
~~were~~ to ~~face~~ looting, or direct persecution like scrubbing
streets.

2.2 How did non-Jewish friends, colleagues, schoolmates, neighbors, etc.
behave toward you and your family?

We shunned each other.

2.3 Do you have any recollections of November 9th, 1938, the so-called "Reichs-Kristallnacht"? (If so, please give details.)

I don't know whether it was on that night, but I do recall spending a good part of one night in the basement of the apartment building with others.

2.4 Were you or any members of your family arrested? Sent to a camp? (If so, please give details.)

no

2.5 Can you recall the process of obtaining papers necessary for emigration? (Did you try to obtain visas for other countries as well? Were you supported by any relief organization, by relatives or friends?)

My brother went from embassy to embassy, trying immediately after the Anschluss, registering for immigration. When word of U.S. visa possibilities came through, an old friend of the family, going back to World War I, who was living in Detroit, Mich, agreed to sponsor us.

2.6 What happened to your (or your family's) apartments, houses, businesses and other property?

My father and grandfathers sold what they could of their businesses, at ridiculously low prices. We were able to take with us clothes, bedding, some silverware + jewellery, and a minimum of cash. The rest remained in Vienna.

2.7 When did you leave Austria? (Please indicate exact date, if possible)

March 1940. My ~~older~~ brother left in September 1938

2.8 If you did not emigrate directly to the U.S., where did you go first?
(How long did you stay there? Can you give a brief description of your experiences?
Why did you leave?)

We travelled from Vienna through Germany in a train with covered windows to Holland. After 2 weeks or so, in Rotterdam, we sailed to New York, with a stop in Southampton.

3. THE UNITED STATES

3.1 When did you arrive in the U.S.? (Please indicate exact date, if possible)

April 1940

3.2 Did members of your family emigrate to countries other than the U.S.? (If so, where? Where do they live today? Are you still in contact with them?)

My brother emigrated to England in September 1938, spent the war years there, then went to Cyprus in 1947 and entered Palestine illegally on the second tray. He has lived in Israel throughout, except when stationed elsewhere.

3.3 Did you serve in the U.S. Armed Forces or in any other allied army? (If so, when did you join? What division? What was your area of operation? When were you discharged?)

no

3.4 Please list places and dates of residence in the U.S.

(City, State; in bigger cities, neighborhood)

my parents and maternal grandparents lived in the Bronx, in New York for the rest of their lives, except that my mother lived in South Florida for 19 years until she died. I lived in the East Bronx, then Riverdale; moved in Indianapolis, Ind in 1967; to the Chicago suburbs (Wilmette and Palatine) in 1974; and to Naples Beach, Fla in 1983.

3.5 Please describe your occupational situation from your arrival in the U.S. to the present.

I was a student - elementary, junior high and high school and college - and then briefly in accountancy at KPMG an international company. Subsequently, I spent 30 years with insurance companies and actuarial consulting firms - I was a Fellow of the Society of Actuaries and a member of other actuarial organizations - then in publishing as writer, editor and publisher of ~~the~~ a bi-weekly then monthly ~~magazine~~ community magazine, and now a City Commissioner in Naples Beach.

3.6 Did you belong to any emigrant/immigrant-related organization or cultural association? (e.g. Austrian American Federation, Austrian Forum, etc.? If so, since when? Do you still belong to any of them?)

As

3.7 Do you still speak German? If so, with whom and when? How often?

Sometimes — with no one

3.8 Would you call yourself religious? To what degree? What is your affiliation? Has it changed?

(Do you keep kosher, go to synagogue, observe the holidays,...?)

No — but I am definitely Jewish

3.9 Are your friends and acquaintances mostly German-speaking or non-German-speaking? Mainly Jewish or not?

Friends are entirely American, mainly Jewish

3.10 Of what country (countries) are you a citizen? When was each citizenship granted?

U. S. by naturalization

3.11 **Have you ever visited Austria since the war? If so, how often?**
(What did you do there? Can you recall some of your impressions during these visits?
Have you ever thought of going back permanently?)

no - but I plan to visit

4. **PARTICIPATION IN OTHER ORAL HISTORY PROJECTS**

4.1 **Have you ever been interviewed by any other organization?**
(Please indicate when and by which organization?)

no

4.2 **Have you ever been mentioned in any historical works?**
(Holocaust-related literature, Documentary films, Exhibitions etc.)

no

5. FAMILY MEMBERS

5.1 **Spouse** (Name, Maiden Name, Place/date of birth (if deceased, place/date of death), Occupation(s))

Hannah (Ann) Brummer, nee Israel,
born in New York on 7.3.39. Retired.

5.2 **Mother** (Name, Maiden Name, Place/date of birth (if deceased, place/date of death), Occupation(s))

Sofia Brummer, nee Damas. born 1/1/1903
in Komarno, Poland. Died in Pompano Beach
Fla, 9/18/2002. Worked in the garment district,
and later as a saleswoman in department
stores.

5.3 **Father** (Name, Place/date of birth (if deceased, place/date of death, Occupation(s))

Salomon Brummer, born 10/28/1893 in
Kamionka-Strumilowa, Poland. Died in New York
in January 1966. Worked in the garment district, then
had his own business—a photo studio, then children's
wear store, the Caudromat.

5.4 **Siblings** (Name, Maiden Name, Place/date of birth (if deceased, place/date of death), Occupation(s))

Simon & Marath, also there, born in Olszyna
on 7/22/1924. Israeli diplomatic corps,
in various positions including Ambassador
to several countries

5.5 Children (Name, Maiden Name, Address (City, State, Country), Place/date of birth (if deceased, place/date of death), Occupation(s))

Howard A. Bremmer, born in New York on 1/1/9910

Suzanne Marie Berkovits, new Bremmer, born in New York on 7/8/45 - works for Hassak

Self-employed with web business

5.6 Grandparents (Name, Maiden Name, Place/date of birth (if deceased, place/date of death), Occupation(s))

Maternal: Moses Kawa (Dresen) born in Komorow, Poland, 5/10/1880; died in New York in 1953

Rosa Kawa, nee Wunder, born in Poland in 1876 or 1874; died in New York ca 1958

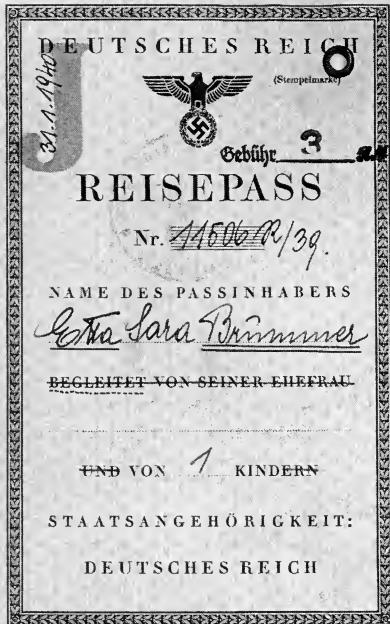
Paternal: Lazar Bremmer, born Poland in 186?, died in Holocaust

Leopold Bremmer, nee Blister, born in Poland, died in Holocaust

The Austrian Heritage Collection is always looking for people to interview.

If you know any Austrian-Jewish immigrants in the US who might be interested in participating in this project, please either ask them to contact us or write their addresses below.

Thank you very much for participating in this project.



Dieser Paß
 enthält 32 Seiten



Quota	Immigration Visa
	No. <u>4410</u>
dated	FEB 15 1940
Issued to	<u>Etta Brummer</u>
	(name)
American Consul at Vice	<u>Donald W. Brown</u>
	DONALD W. BROWN VIENNA, GERMANY
IMMIGRANT IDENTIFICATION	
CARD NO. <u>1131112</u> ISSUED	

30

Nr. 11506 R/39

Rantsoenboekje S 1 verstrekt d.d. 28 MAART 1940
op verklaring, dat hr. uder eerstvolgende vier dagen niet
in een hotel verblijf houdt.

DISTRIBUTIEKRING de ambtenaar van de Distributiedienst
ROTTERDAM

P. Glentana

Nr. 11506 R/39

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Non Quota	Immigration Visa
Quota	No. 4414
dated	FEB 15 1940
Issued to	Georg Brummer (name)
American Consul at Vienna	DONALD W. BROWN VIENNA, GERMANY

IMMIGRANT IDENTIFICATION
CARD NO. 1131116 ISSUED

Nr. 11506 R/39

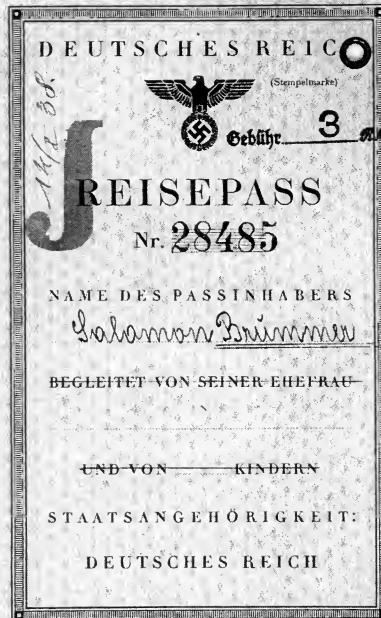
31

Fahrtausweise Nr. 53693, 57903
für ... Zweck Person an
zur Reise von ... Wien nach Österreich
zur Erfüllung des ... Aufenthalts auf kurzem Wege
bZR G Wien am ... 22. 11. 1940

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Nr. 11506 R/39

A 52





DEUTSCHES REICH



(Stempelmarken)

Gebühr

3

an

REISEPASS

Nr. 11504 R/39

NAME DES PASSINHABERS

Moses Kauer

BEGLEITET VON SEINER EHEFRAU

UND VON KINDERN

STAATSANGEHÖRIGKEIT:

DEUTSCHES REICH

Nr. 11504 R/39

Dieser Paß
enthalt 32 Seiten



Ehefrau

Lichtbild



Unterschrift des Passinhabers

Moses Kauer

und seiner Ehefrau

Es wird hiermit bescheinigt, daß der Inhaber die durch
das obenstehende Lichtbild dargestellte Person ist und
daß er die beifindliche Unterschrift eigenhändig voll-
zogen hat.



Wien

, den 31. Jan. 1940

J. A. Habermann

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Nr. 11504 R/39



**End of Etta Brummer Family
Collection**
